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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 852
By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Edward Hogin
Hooper of Cookeville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Mr. Edward Hogin Hooper; and

WHEREAS, Ed Hooper was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee and a longtime resident of Putnam County, Mr. Hooper was a renowned member and leader of the Cookeville community; and

WHEREAS, since 1955, he has owned and operated Hooper & Huddleston Funeral Home, and had served for more than thirty years as a highly respected funeral director in the community; and

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WHEREAS, born September 15, 1913, in Dickson, to the late James Montgomery and Elizabeth Sue Hogin Hooper, Mr. Ed Hooper was a graduate of Donelson High School, where he played on the school's first football team; and

WHEREAS, in 1935, he became a licensed funeral director in Tennessee and a few years later moved to Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, he had received many awards and honors over the years, both professionally and personally, but Mr. Hooper took his greatest pride in serving grieving families with kindness and dignity and comforting them in their time of need; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooper was an active and devout member of the Collegeside Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, he also spent countless hours working on behalf of various civic and community organizations; he was a member of the Cookeville Lions Club, from which he had received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award, and the Cookeville Rotary Club, from which he had received the Paul Harris Fellow Award, both these awards are the highest honor bestowed by the respective clubs; and

WHEREAS, he had served his fellow citizens with distinction as a board member of the Union Planters Bank, as a board member of Tennessee Technological University's Business Foundation-Chair of Excellence, as the first president of the Putnam Chamber of Commerce, as president of the Putnam Jaycees, as chairman of the American Red Cross blood program, and as a volunteer with the American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his stalwart commitment to Tennessee Technological University, he was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award and was inducted into the TTU Sports Hall of Fame; he was also named the "Pride of Putnam County" by the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, it has been truthfully said that in the years before there was a Chamber of Commerce in Cookeville, Ed Hooper served his fellow citizens by doing the job entirely by himself -- he was the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, quite active within his profession, Mr. Hooper served as executive secretary of the Tennessee State Board of Funeral Directors & Embalmers for ten years and had been named "Man of the Year" by the National Selected Morticians Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooper was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ed Hooper enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife of 62 years, Frances Jacobs Hooper, and was the proud parent of two daughters and sons-in-laws Harriet Sue and Phil Hall of Cookeville and Helen Ann and Harry Ward of Nashville, the loving grandparent of four grandsons and a granddaughter-in-law, Phillip Edward and Lee Ann Hall, Reginald Hooper Hall, Harry Hobgood Ward, Jr., and Andrew Hooper Ward; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hooper will also be sorely missed by his sister, Katharine Hooper of Nashville, his brother, T.C. Hooper of Greenville, South Carolina, and a host of other extended family members, church-family members, friends, neighbors, and the entire Cookeville community; and

WHEREAS, Ed Hooper leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor the memory of Mr. Edward Hogin Hooper of Putnam County, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, his stalwart commitment to living the

examined life with courage and conviction, and his many selfless contributions to his community and the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Ed Hooper.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.